

BLOCK THE HATRED ON INTERNET. SHARE THE HUMAN RIGHTS LANGUAGE.
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HATE AT A GLANCE



Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behaviour among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Both kids who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems.

HATE IN NUMBERS, TARGETING YOUNGSTERS



Albania

60%

of children and teenagers claim to be threatened or bullied online

34%

of teens have been cyberbullied

15%

of teens admit to bullying others



Bosnia and Herzegovina

38%

of children do not feel safe on the internet

30%

of children have received online threats

26%

of children did not block/report the bully



Kosovo*

12%

of children were threatened online in the past year

53%

of the bullied children were bullied on social media

Girls 66%

report the problems more than

boys 58%

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.



Montenegro

27%

of children have been victims of online bullying

48%

of children knew the bully in real life

69%

of children reported that the biggest online violence happens on social networks



North Macedonia

40%

of children were harassed or insulted

43%

of children never report the bullying

74%

of children do not know the mechanisms they can use in case of online violence



Serbia

20%

of children have felt unsafe online multiple times.

22%

of children said that the best way to make people feel safe on the internet, especially young people, is to talk more about it in schools.

Bullying is not only about youth

"We find that many women avoid going out on public platforms and on social media. You see them on TV because on TV there's no platform for bullying. You come on TV, you say whatever you have to say. On TV, female representation is higher, whereas it declines on online media, and I think this is directly connected to cyberbullying. There are very few women who are standing up to that bullying in this region. You can literally count them on one hand, it's so few."

Arbana Vidishiqi, RFE/RL Balkan Service Director

Hate speech is not free speech!

"Council of Europe member States are called to ensure access by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) children to quality education by promoting respect and inclusion of LGBTI persons and the dissemination of objective information about issues concerning sexual orientation and gender identity, and by introducing measures to address homophobic and transphobic bullying"

[Resolution 2097\(2016\) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on "Access to school and education for all children"](#)

GOOD PRACTICES



In Albania, an online platform ISIGURT (www.isigurt.al) was launched as a reporting platform for online abuse and offences. From January to June 2019, 60% out of 35 reported cases were related to hate speech, threats and online blackmail.

NGO Labris **in Serbia**, in co-operation with the Sarajevo Open Centre, from Bosnia and Herzegovina, implemented a project on preventing bullying in high schools on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity in the country. They conducted a survey of high school students: 72% of respondents stated that violence in schools had been happening every day or often, with 37% of interviewees thinking that violence against LGBTI children had been justified. Game changers were identified, especially as pedagogues and psychologists, involved in presenting positive practices of inclusion.

WAYS FORWARD

In its 2020 report on Albania, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance recommends that the authorities build on the achievements already made regarding preventing and combating racism and intolerance in schools. They should, in particular, move on from general anti-bullying activities to developing and implementing group-specific modules against bullying of members of vulnerable communities, such as Roma and/or LGBTI children and young people; as well as expanding these activities across the country, including into rural areas.



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